



Minnesota Ag News – Hogs & Pigs

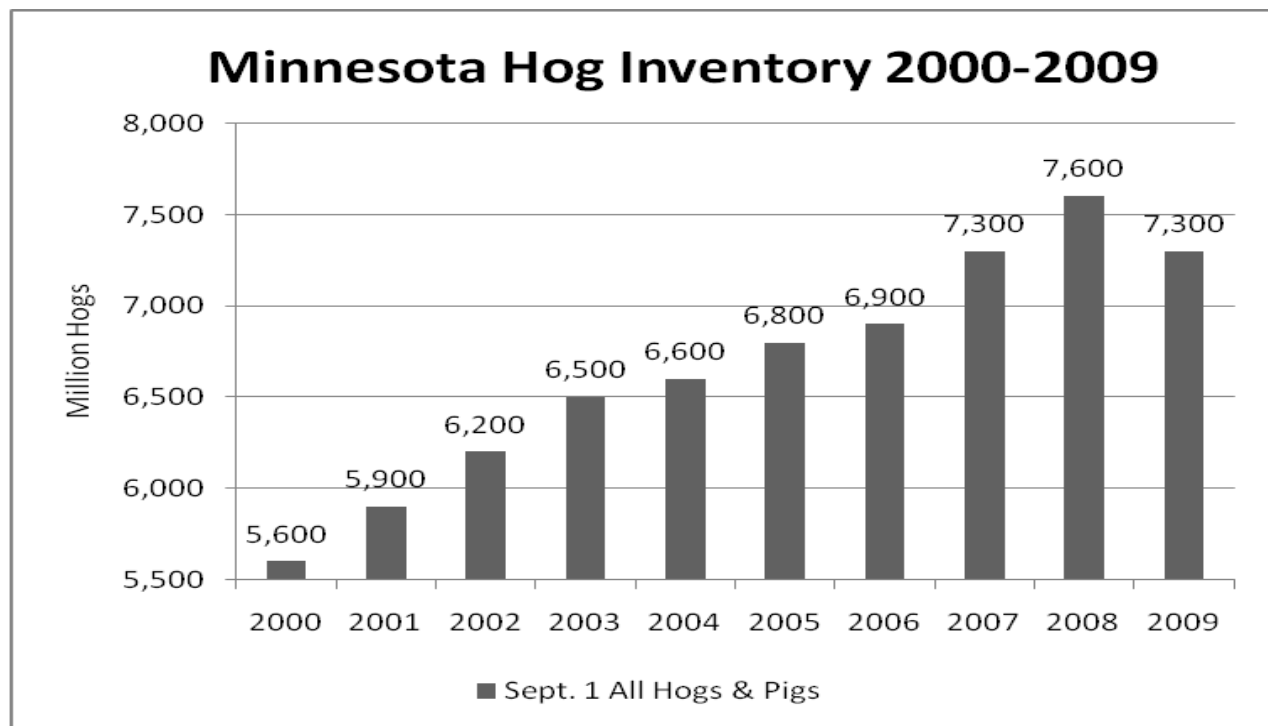
USDA, NASS, Minnesota Field Office
P.O. Box 7068 – St. Paul, MN 55107
(651) 296-2230 · (651) 296-3192 FAX
Email: nass-mn@nass.usda.gov - Homepage:
<http://www.nass.usda.gov>

Released: September 25, 2009

Cooperating with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture

MINNESOTA HOG INVENTORY DOWN 3 PERCENT FROM JUNE

Minnesota hog producers had an inventory of 7.3 million hogs and pigs on September 1, 2009, down 4 percent from last year and down 3 percent from the June 1, 2009, figure, according to the USDA, NASS, Minnesota Field Office. Breeding hogs totaled 560 thousand head, down 2 percent from a year earlier and market hogs and pigs at 6.74 million head, were down 4 percent from a year ago.



STATE PIG CROP DOWN 2 PERCENT FROM 2008

Minnesota's June-August 2009 pig crop totaled 2.75 million head, down 2 percent from a year earlier and down 1 percent from the March-May 2009 pig crop. The 275 thousand sows that farrowed averaged 10.00 pigs per litter, up from 9.80 a year ago. The June-August 2009 litter rate is a record high level for any quarter.

SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER 2009 AND DECEMBER 2009-FEBRUARY 2010 INTENTIONS

Hog producers in Minnesota intend to farrow 285 thousand sows during the September-November 2009 quarter. If realized, this would be unchanged from the same period a year earlier. Producers also intend to farrow 285 thousand sows during the December 2009-February 2010 quarter. If realized, this would be unchanged from the same period in 2009.

(See back page for U.S. highlights)

Kevin Stukenberg
Agricultural Statistician

Douglas Hartwig
Director

U.S. HOG INVENTORY DOWN 2 PERCENT

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on September 1, 2009 was 66.6 million head. This was down 2 percent from September 1, 2008 but up 1 percent from June 1, 2009.

Breeding inventory, at 5.87 million head, was down 3 percent from last year and down 2 percent from the previous quarter. **Market hog inventory**, at 60.8 million head, was down 2 percent from last year but up 1 percent from last quarter.

The June-August 2009 pig crop, at 28.8 million head, was down 2 percent from 2008 and down 1 percent from 2007. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.97 million head, down 4 percent from 2008 and down 5 percent from 2007. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 50 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was a record high 9.70 for the June-August 2009 period, compared to 9.51 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.40 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.80 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

REVISIONS

All inventory and pig crop estimates for September 2008 through June 2009 were reviewed using slaughter, death loss and current import and export data. Based on this review, adjustments of less than one percent were made to the March 2009 and June 2009 total inventory. An adjustment of less than two percent was made to the December 2008-February 2009 pig crop.

SPECIAL NOTE

The market hogs and pigs weight groups will be changing beginning with the December 2009 Quarterly Hogs and Pigs release. The market weight group under 60 pounds will be changed to under 50 pounds, and the market weight group 60-119 pounds will be changed to 50-119 pounds. The 120-179 pounds and 180 pounds and over weight groups will remain the same. These changes align NASS market hogs and pigs weight groups more closely with international trade data. Statistics Canada is making similar changes to the Canadian market hogs and pigs categories. This will allow for a more uniform analysis of the U.S. and Canadian hog inventories.

Estimates will be published in the December 2009 Quarterly Hogs and Pigs release for the new weight groups dating back to March of 2008 at the U.S. and State level using slaughter data and current import and export data. These estimates will allow for historical analysis of the new weight groups and will provide a point of reference for proceeding quarters.

**Monthly Farrowings: Number of Sows, Pigs per Litter, and Pig Crop,
United States, December-November 2008-2009**

Month	Sows Farrowing ¹		Pigs per Litter		Pig Crop ¹	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
Dec ²	1,017	1,001	9.22	9.50	9,381	9,512
Jan	1,028	1,018	9.24	9.45	9,501	9,619
Feb	1,026	1,005	9.26	9.49	9,505	9,542
Mar	1,049	997	9.35	9.56	9,811	9,530
Apr	998	986	9.38	9.61	9,370	9,474
May	1,004	988	9.41	9.66	9,449	9,543
Jun	1,046	998	9.48	9.71	9,917	9,693
Jul	1,020	988	9.52	9.70	9,712	9,589
Aug	1,009	980	9.53	9.69	9,611	9,490
Sep	1,047		9.50		9,950	
Oct	1,005		9.48		9,528	
Nov	976		9.52		9,292	
Total	12,225		9.41		115,027	

¹ Monthly values may not add to quarterly or annual totals due to rounding.

² December preceding year.